

POETIC TERMS

FORMS

- Form: The physical structure of the poem
 - Includes: rhyme scheme, lines, stanzas, repetitions
 - Examples: Sonnet, villanelle, acrostic
- Stanza: a group of lines forming a unit in a poem; the poetic equivalent of a paragraph
- Quatrain: a stanza made up of four lines
- Couplet: two lines that rhyme, one coming immediately after the other
 - Examples: Dr. Seuss
- Speaker: the voice which seems to be telling the poem, not the poet who wrote it
 - A.k.a. The “narrator” of the poem

FORMS CONTINUED

- Rhyme: two or more words that end in the same sound
- Rhyme Scheme: the pattern of rhyming created by the final word in each line
 - Letters are used to denote the rhyme scheme, with matching letters representing the rhymes
 - The rhyme scheme of a Shakespearian sonnet is: abab cdcd efef gg
- Repetition: the repeating of a word, phrase or line to draw attention to it

SOUND DEVICES

- Onomatopoeia: when a word is the sound it's trying to describe
 - Examples: Boom, bang, clon, splash
- Alliteration: the repetition of certain sounds across multiple words in a row
 - Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers.
- Assonance: the repetition of vowel sounds across multiple words in a row.
 - All aboard!
- Consonance: the repetition of consonant sounds across multiple words in a row.
 - She sells seashells by the seashore to seasick sailors and shell shocked soldiers.

WRITE YOUR OWN POEM

- Half a page long, no less
- Use eight of the twelve terms we just went over
- Label where you used those terms
- Include figurative language
- Must have a theme
- Consider tone, mood, denotation and connotation